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Dated: 8/30/06

Signature:

Lisa Gentry
(Lisa Gentry)

Docket No.: 63279-00702USC1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Michael Guess et al.

Application No.: 09/975474

Confirmation No.: 9742

Filed: October 11, 2001

Art Unit: 2664

For: METROPOLITAN AREA LOCAL ACCESS
SERVICE SYSTEM

Examiner: F. L. Khoo

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 14, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1-18, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.